

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:684

ANSWERED ON:21.02.2003

NON-TARIFF BARRIERS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES

PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian exporters have had to face non-tariff barriers imposed by some countries;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases during the last three years; and
- (c) the strategy, if any, adopted by the Government to counter the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (c) : With the falling of Tariff Barriers consequent upon the WTO coming into existence in 1995, Non Tariff Barriers(NTBs) are resorted to by several countries. They are in the form of restrictive standards, burdensome regulations and procedures, market restrictions including labelling practices, environmental regulations, restrictive sanitary and phyto sanitary conditions etc. These Non Tariff Barriers affect the capacity of many countries including India to trade in the global market. India attaches great importance to addressing the issues of Non Tariff Barriers particularly on products of export interest to us.

As a first step towards addressing this issue, the Government has collected information on the major Non Tariff barriers by interacting with exporters and intense research on this issue. The problems arising due to non-tariff barriers are being duly taken up with the authorities of the country concerned, bilaterally with a view to their early and mutually satisfactory resolution. Certain issues, that are not resolved this way, have been taken up for resolution through WTO's Dispute Settlement Mechanism. In the WTO negotiations, India has co-sponsored proposals along with some other developing countries to disallow use of measures by developed countries that make exports difficult for developing countries.